



PATENT  
0905-0220P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kaname NIHEI Conf.: 8352  
Appl. No.: 09/377,821 Group: 2624  
Filed: August 20, 1999 Examiner: D. TRAN  
For: MULTIPLE-PRINTER CONTROL APPARATUS AND  
METHOD

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LARGE ENTITY TRANSMITTAL FORM

Technology Center 2600

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

March 19, 2003

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a reply in the above-identified application.

☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via the Certificate of Mailing provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via facsimile.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

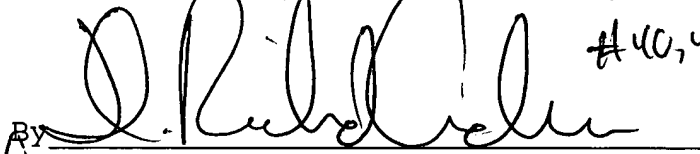
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL	5	-	20	=	0	\$18	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	2	-	3	=	0	\$84	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM						\$280	\$0.00
						TOTAL	\$0.00

- ☐ Petition for ( ) month(s) extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a). \$0.00 for the extension of time.
- ☒ No fee is required.
- ☐ Check(s) in the amount of \$0.00 is(are) enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. This form is submitted in triplicate.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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By Michael K. Mutter, #29,680

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0905-0220P

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Attachment(s)

(Rev. 10/15/02)



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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

March 19, 2003

Sir:

In reply to the Official Action mailed December 19, 2002, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A multiple-printer control apparatus for controlling a plurality of printers, comprising:
- a print-processing capability detection unit for detecting print processing capability of each of the plurality of printers;
  - an overall-workload detection unit for detecting overall workload of printing to be performed using the plurality of printers; and
  - a printer control unit for performing control, on the basis of print processing capabilities detected by said print-processing capability detection unit and the overall